

FORM PCT/1390 (Modified) REV 1/97 APR 03 2001 TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 0182.00002
		U.S. APPLICATION NO. (IF KNOWN, SEE 37 CFR 09/806920
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/IB99/01565	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 22 September 1999	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 12 October 1998
TITLE OF INVENTION A WINDSCREEN WIPER		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Fehrse		
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1). 4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date. 5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c) (2)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been transmitted by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). 6. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)). 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210). 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have been transmitted by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. 9. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)). 10. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)). 11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/IPEA/409). 12. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)). 		
Items 13 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. 14. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included. 15. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment. 16. <input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment. 17. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification. 18. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter. 19. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail 20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: 		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Postcard		

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (IF KNOWN, SEE 37 CFR
- 097806920INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.
PCT/IB99/01565ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER
0182.00002

21. The following fees are submitted:.

BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1) - (5)) :

<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO	\$1,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO	\$860.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO	\$710.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)	\$690.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)	\$100.00

CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY**ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =**

\$860.00

Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than
months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (e)). 20 30

\$0.00

CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	
Total claims	7 - 20 =	0	x \$18.00	\$0.00
Independent claims	1 - 3 =	0	x \$80.00	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable).			<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0.00

TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =

\$860.00

Reduction of 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. Verified Small Entity Statement
must also be filed (Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28) (check if applicable).**SUBTOTAL =**

\$860.00

Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than
months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (f)). 20 30

+ \$0.00

TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =

\$860.00

Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be
accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31) (check if applicable).**TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =**

\$860.00

<input type="checkbox"/>	Amount to be: refunded	\$
	charged	\$

A check in the amount of **\$860.00** to cover the above fees is enclosed.

Please charge my Deposit Account No. in the amount of to cover the above fees.
A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. **02-2712** A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

Gerald E. McGlynn, III
Bliss McGlynn, P.C.
2075 West Big Beaver Rd., Suite 600
Troy, MI 48084

SIGNATURE

Gerald E. McGlynn, III

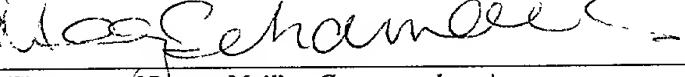
NAME

33,737

REGISTRATION NUMBER

April 3, 2001

DATE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" (37 CFR 1.10)			Docket No. 0182.00002
Applicant(s): Fehrsen		09/806920	
Serial No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Group Art Unit
Invention: A WINDSCREEN WIPER			
<p>I hereby certify that the following correspondence:</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> Transmittal Letter, Declaration and Power of Attorney, Preliminary Amendment, copy of International Search Report, copy of International Preliminary Examination Report, and check </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(Identify type of correspondence)</i></p> <p>is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: The Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on</p> <p style="text-align: center;">April 3, 2001</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(Date)</i></p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Megan L. Schamanek</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)</i></p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence)</i></p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">EL703563764US</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>("Express Mail" Mailing Label Number)</i></p>			
<p>Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.</p>			

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Fehrsen, Johannes Hendrik

)

Serial No.: Unknown

)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Filing Date: April 2, 2001

)

For: A WINDSCREEN WIPER

)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, following the title, and before the first paragraph, please insert the following heading:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

On page 2, line 38, please insert the following heading:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

On page 3, before the first paragraph, please insert the following heading:

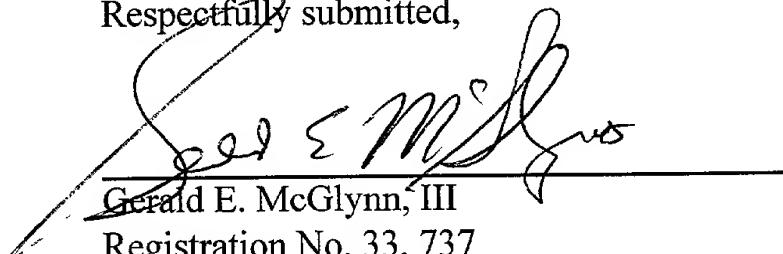
DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT(S)

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 were originally pending in the PCT application to which this application claims priority. On September 22, 2000, a new set of claims 1-7 were submitted to the International Preliminary Examining Authority. Accordingly, claims 1-7 are presently pending in this application. The specification has been amended to include headings that conform to standard U.S. patent practice. No new matter has been added.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims clearly distinguish over the prior art and are therefore allowable. Accordingly, applicant respectfully solicits favorable action toward allowance of the claims pending in this case.

Respectfully submitted,


Gerald E. McGlynn, III
Registration No. 33,737

BLISS McGLYNN, P.C.
2075 W. Big Beaver, Suite 600
Troy, MI 48084
(248) 649-6090

Date: April 3, 2001
Attorney Docket No. 0182.00002

A WINDSCREEN WIPER

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This invention relates to a windscreen wiper. More particularly, the invention relates to a windscreen wiper and to a protective end fitting for a windscreen wiper.

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According to a first aspect of the invention, there is provided a windscreen wiper which includes a unitary elongate curved beam, the beam having a protective end formation at at least one of its tips.

The beam may have a pair of end formations, one at each tip. Each of the end formations may include an extra length of the beam, with the beam mounted to a rubber so that the extra length projects beyond an end of the rubber.

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Each of the extra lengths may be folded so that an end portion thereof extends substantially parallel to an end surface of the rubber. Alternatively, each of the extra lengths may be folded back on itself.

An edge portion of the length may be pre-shaped, having rounded edges.

The extra length may be folded after being softened in a heating process to facilitate bending.

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Each of the protective end formations may include a cap of a synthetic plastics material which fits over the tip.

30 The curved backbone may have a varying width and or thickness, along its length. The backbone may have a free form curvature in a plane or may have a compound curvature (that is curved in two planes).

35 According to a second aspect of the invention, there is provided a protective end fitting for a windscreens wiper, which includes a body member having a recess for snugly receiving a tip of a beam.

40 The fitting may have a locating means, with the beam having complementary locating formations for securing the fitting in position on the beam.

45 The invention is now described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

50 Figure 1 shows a side view of a windscreens wiper, in accordance with a first aspect of the invention;

55 Figure 2 shows a side view of a protective end fitting for a windscreens wiper, in accordance with a second aspect of the invention;

60 Figure 3 shows an end view of the fitting of Figure 2, viewed from a section taken along III-III in Figure 2;

65 Figure 4 shows a top view of the fitting of Figure 2;

70 Figure 5 shows a side view of one embodiment of a protective end formation for a windscreens wiper, in accordance with the first aspect of the invention; and

75 Figure 6 shows a side view of another embodiment of a protective end formation for a windscreens wiper, in accordance with the first aspect of the invention.

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In the drawings, a windscreen wiper in accordance with the invention is generally designated by the reference numeral 10. The windscreen wiper 10 includes a unitary curved backbone in the form of a beam 12 and a rubber wiper blade 14. The beam 12 has a protective end formation generally indicated by reference numeral 16, at each of its tips 18.

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Referring to Figures 2 to 4 of the drawings, a protective end fitting for a windscreen wiper, in accordance with a second aspect of the invention, is generally indicated by reference numeral 20. The protective end fitting 20 includes a body member 22 having a recess 24 for snugly receiving one of the tips 18 of the beam 12. Each fitting 20 is moulded and comprises a synthetic plastics material.

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Referring now to Figures 5 and 6 of the drawings, two different embodiments of the protective end formation 16 are shown. In Figure 5, the end formation 16 is in the form of a rounded end which was formed by folding an edge portion 26 of the tip 18 over, so that it extends substantially parallel to an edge 27 of the rubber. The end formation 16, shown in Figure 6, is also in the form of a rounded end formed by folding the edge portion 26 of the tip 18 over on itself.

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Each edge portion 26 of the tip 18 comprises an extra length of the beam 12. The edge portion 26 may be bent by clamping the tip 18 of the beam 12 in a clamping mechanism to avoid bending or damaging of the beam 12 during bending of the edge portion 26. The edge portion 26 may be softened in a heating process before or after clamping of the tip 18 to facilitate bending.

It will be appreciated that the actual shape of the rounded end is cost
80 and aesthetically determined.

CLAIMS:

1. A windscreen wiper (10) which includes a unitary elongate curved beam (12), and a rubber blade (14) mounted to the beam (12), the beam (12) having a protective end formation (16) at at least one of its tips (18), characterised therein that the end formation (16) comprises a deformed end portion of the beam (12), which projects beyond an end portion of the rubber blade (14).
2. The windscreen wiper (10) as claimed in Claim 1, characterised therein that the beam (12) has a pair of end formations (16), one at each tip (18).
3. The windscreen wiper (10) as claimed in Claim 2, characterised therein that each end portion has been deformed by being folded over.
4. The windscreen wiper (10) as claimed in Claim 2, characterised therein that each end portion has been folded back on itself.
5. The windscreen wiper (10) as claimed in Claim 1, characterised therein that the curved beam (12) has a varying width and thickness, along its length.
6. The windscreen wiper (10) as claimed in Claim 1, characterised therein that the beam (12) has a free form curvature in a plane.
7. The windscreen wiper (10) as claimed in Claim 1, characterised therein that the beam (12) has a compound curvature.

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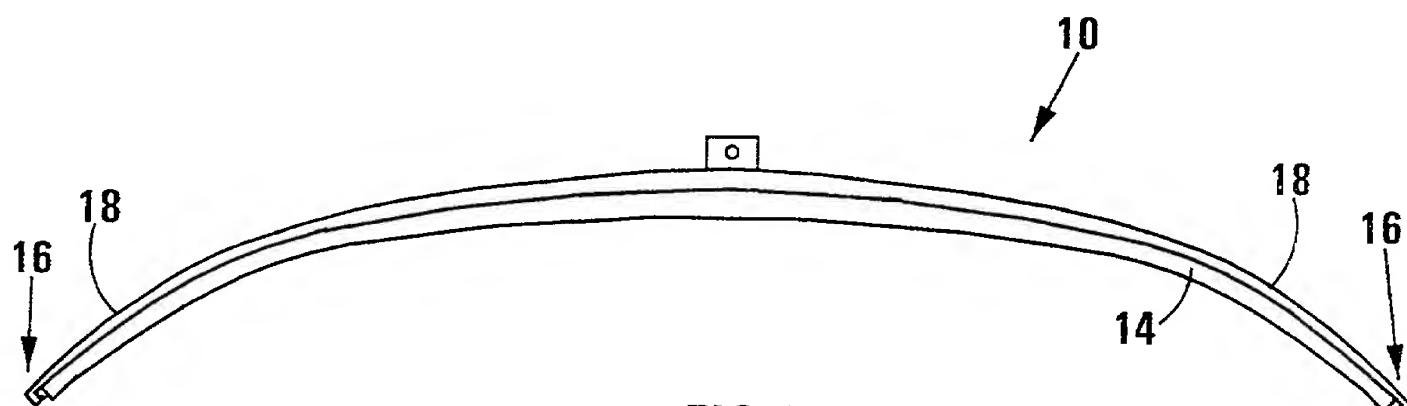


FIG 1

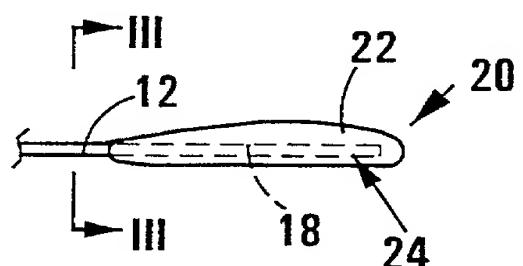


FIG 2

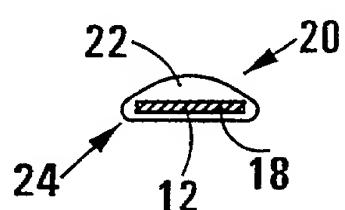


FIG 3

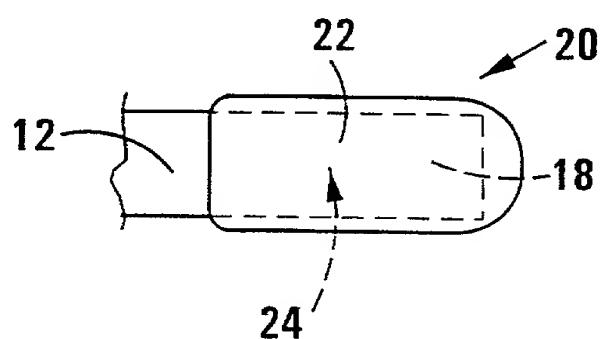


FIG 4

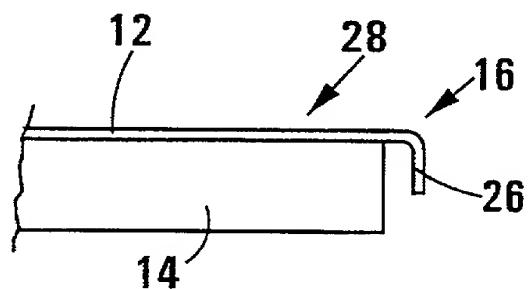


FIG 5

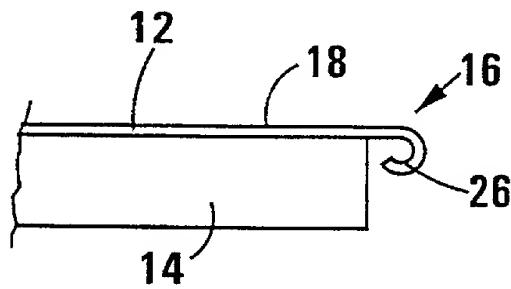


FIG 6

Docket No.
0182.00002

Declaration and Power of Attorney For Patent Application

English Language Declaration

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

A WINDSCREEN WIPER

the specification of which

(check one)

is attached hereto.

was filed on 22 September 1999 as United States Application No. or PCT International

Application Number PCT/IB99/01565

and was amended on 22 September 2000

(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(a)-(d) or Section 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or Section 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s)

Priority Not Claimed

98/9281

(Number)

PCT/IB99/01565

(Number)

(Number)

South Africa

(Country)

PCT

(Country)

(Country)

12 October 1998

(Day/Month/Year Filed)

22 September 1999

(Day/Month/Year Filed)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U. S. C. Section 120 of any United States application(s), or Section 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, C. F. R., Section 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)

(patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)

(patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)

(patented, pending, abandoned)

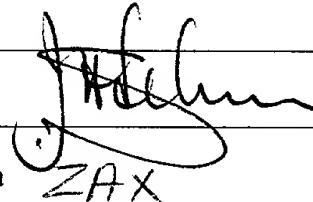
I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (list name and registration number)

③
 Daniel H. Bliss, Reg. No. 32,398
 Gerald E. McGlynn, III, Reg. No. 33,737
 Brian S. Pickell, Reg. No. 45,013

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Full name of sole or first inventor <u>Johannes Hendrik Fehrsen</u>	Sole or first inventor's signature  <u>ZAX</u>	Date <u>1 June 2001</u>
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Western Cape, Republic of South Africa		

Full name of second inventor, if any		
Second inventor's signature	Date	
Residence		
Citizenship		
Post Office Address		